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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

Executive Registry

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July 25, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR GEORGE CARVER  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Issues Involving U.S. Relations in the Far East

As you may know, I shall be departing shortly for the Far East to become Vice Commander of the 5th Air Force. This is a change from the previously-announced intention to retire. For a number of reasons I have chosen the military path over the attractive (and lucrative) industry route. As Robert Frost wrote:

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence.  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I --  
I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Now that the route has been chosen, I would find it immensely valuable to have your (Agency collective pronoun) insights into issues and problems to which the U.S. military should be sensitive in that area of the world. In particular, I would find useful:

- . A delineation of current principal issues, to include the status, options, and recommended DoD positions.
- . A delineation of longer-term issues, again to include the status, options, and recommended DoD positions.
- . A compilation, if possible, of historical perspective -- dating back, perhaps, at least to the end of World War II and beginning of the U.S. occupation.
- . A listing of new initiatives that the U.S., and especially DoD elements, might consider in the Far East.

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- . Biographical information on the chief U.S. diplomatic officials in Japan and Korea and on the main foreign officials in Japan and Korea with whom DoD officials should be concerned.

Unfortunately, I do not have much time before I must depart for the new assignment. Therefore, if any materials you feel pertinent could be assembled by 2 August, I would greatly appreciate it.



Robert E. Pursley  
Major General, USAF

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